

Delta Independent Science Board Educational Briefing Questionnaire

Please provide short written responses to the following:

1. Program Title: Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program
2. Lead Agency/Department for Program: Department of Water Resources
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management
Financial Assistance Branch
3. Brief Description of Program:
The Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grant Program is a statewide competitive grant program first created under the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50) with continuing funding provided by the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coast Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84) and complementary funding provided by the Disaster Preparedness and Flood Prevention Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 1E), i.e. Stormwater Flood Management (SWFM) grant funding.
4. Purpose and Objectives of Program:
The purpose of IRWM Grant Program is to deliver financial assistance in a manner that:
 - Results in optimal investment of state funding providing maximum benefit to the State's people and environment through improved local and regional water management
 - Is transparent and provides for engagement by partner agencies, interest-based stakeholders, and the public on program development and implementation
 - Is consistent with legal, legislative, and DWR policy requirements for each funding source

The IRWM Grant Program is designed to encourage integrated regional strategies for management of water resources and to provide funding for both planning and implementation projects that support integrated water management. Proposition 84 authorized the legislature to appropriate \$1,000,000,000 for IRWM projects that assist local public agencies to meet the long term water needs of the State including the delivery of safe drinking water and the protection of water quality and the environment. Of the \$1,000,000,000, \$900,000,000 was allocated to 11 hydrologic regions and sub-regions (funding areas) and the remaining \$100,000,000 was allocated to addressing multi-regional needs or issues of statewide significance. Proposition 1E authorized the Legislature to appropriate \$300,000,000 for grants for SWFM projects to manage stormwater to reduce flood damage.
5. Timeline for Program Objectives:
The following link provides the anticipated schedule for the second (of three) rounds grant solicitations. The third round of funding will immediately follow conclusion of the second round. It is anticipated that final program closure (following completion of all grant funded projects) will occur 2021.
http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/docs/ResourcesLinks/2011_2013_IRWMSchedule.pdf
6. Current Status of Program:
Grant Program Guidelines were issued in August 2010. On February 22, 2011, DWR awarded \$21,000,000 in IRWM Planning Grant funds to 30 IRWM regions to update, enhance, or develop IRWM Plans. On August 16, 2011, DWR awarded \$205,000,000 in IRWM Implementation Grant funds to 25 IRWM regions. The funding will support approximately 200 individual projects. On September 21, 2011, DWR announced draft funding recommendations for the SWFM grant program. DWR has proposed funding 18 agencies to support 23 projects. Final SWFM awards are anticipated to be approved by DWR's Director in November 2011.

DWR is now preparing for a second round of grant solicitations. Initial activities for Round 2 include the second (and final) round of IRWM Planning Grants and a public outreach effort to identify process

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improvements for the grant program prior to release of the draft revised guidelines and proposal solicitation packages for the Implementation and SWFM grant programs for public review.

7. Contact Information for Lead Staff of this Program:

Name	Tracie Billington
Title	Chief, Financial Assistance Branch
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8. Associated Total Annual Budget for Program: Varies. See following links to the Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E Bond Allocation Reports which includes information on the IRWM and SWFM funding.
<http://bondaccountability.resources.ca.gov/Attachments/b1a801cb-36af-44c7-854e-3b9047a4525f/29/Prop84AllocationBalanceReport.pdf>

<http://bondaccountability.resources.ca.gov/Attachments/b1a801cb-36af-44c7-854e-3b9047a4525f/24/Prop1EAllocationBalanceReport08082011.pdf>

9. URL, if a Website is Available:

IRWM Grants: <http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/>

SWFM Grants: http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/integregio_stormwaterflood.cfm

10. How does adaptive management play a role in your program?

The Financial Assistance program endeavors to continually improve our business processes to ensure the effective and efficient administration of state funding. Individual regional water management groups may include adaptive management as part of their IRWM Plans and individual local project sponsors may include adaptive management as part of their project implementation efforts.

11. Any additional information that would be helpful to understand the program:

Thank you very much for taking the time to respond to this questionnaire. Please return your completed questionnaire to Gina Ford (gina.ford@deltacouncil.ca.gov) no later than October 6, 2011.